

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-42. (cancelled)

43. (new) A method to transfer print data in a server system having a first print data server, comprising the steps of:

providing the first print data server with a supplying computer module as a computer-readable medium having a computer program and which supplies print data;

providing a reading computer module as a computer readable medium having a computer program that reads the supplied print data;

selecting one of the following transmission modes

a complete storage of the print data in a file occurs before the reading computer module reads the print data,

a segment-by-segment storage of the data in a file occurs such that the reading computer module already begins with the reading of a segment while the supplying computer module is still supplying print data, and

a direct transmission of the print data between the supplying computer module and the reading computer module occurs without buffering;

controlling the selecting of the transmission mode by at least one control parameter predetermined in a print job manager, the reading computer module and the supplying computer module cooperating via the at least one control parameter; and

also controlling the selecting of the transmission mode dependent on the print job.

44. (new) A method according to claim 43 wherein in the transmission mode with the direct transmission of the data, the reading computer module reacts,

controlled by at least one parameter, in one of the following manners when data to be read no longer exists:

the read event is continuously repeated until data to be read is present, or until the reading computer module receives the notification that data is no longer being supplied, or

the read event is aborted.

45. (new) A method according to claim 43 wherein the data are supplied in blocks in a block format determined by the supplying computer module.

46. (new) A method according to claim 43 wherein the data transmission of the data occurs via a socket connection established between the supplying computer module and the reading computer module.

47. (new) A method according to claim 43 wherein given the storage in segments of print data, print data of a print job are already further processed via the reading computer module in a subsequent process, while subsequent print data of the same print job are still being stored.

48. (new) A method according to claim 43 wherein the transmission mode to be applied is established dependent on the print job in a print job corollary file.

49. (new) A method according to claim 43 wherein the reading computer module runs on a second print data server.

50. (new) A method according to claim 43 wherein both the supplying computer module and the reading computer module run on the first server.

51. (new) A method to transfer data in a print data service system comprising at least first and second print data servers, comprising the steps of:

providing the first print data server with a supplying computer module as a computer readable medium having a computer program supplying print data;

providing the second print data server with a reading computer module as a computer-readable medium having a computer program that reads the supplied print data;

selecting one of the following transmission modes

a complete storage of the print data in a file occurs before the reading computer module reads the print data,

a segment-by-segment storage of the data in a file occurs such that the reading computer module already begins with the reading of a segment while the supplying computer module is still supplying print data, and

a direct transmission of the print data between the supplying computer module and the reading computer module occurs without buffering;

controlling the selecting of the transmission mode by at least one control parameter predetermined in a print job manager, the reading computer module and the supplying computer module cooperating via the at least one control parameter;

also controlling the selecting of the transmission mode dependent on the print job;

the data being supplied in blocks in a block format predetermined by the supplying computer module; and

given the storage in segments of print data, print data of a print job are already further processed via the reading computer module in a subsequent process, while subsequent print data of the same print job are still being stored.

52. (new) A computer program system to transfer data in a network of print data servers, comprising:

a first print data server comprising a supplying computer module as a computer-readable medium having a computer program supplying print data;

a reading computer module as a computer-readable medium having a computer program that reads the supplied print data;

the supplying computer module and the reading computer module employing one of the following transmission modes

a complete storage of the data in a file occurs before the reading computer module reads the data

the segment-by-segment storage of the data in a file occurs such that the reading computer module already begins with the reading of the segment while the supplying computer module is still supplying data, and

a direct transmission of the data between the supplying computer module and the reading computer module occurs without buffering;

a print job manager having at least one predetermined control parameter for controlling the selecting of the transmission mode such that the reading computer module and the supplying computer module cooperate via the at least one control parameter; and

the print job manager also controlling the selecting of the transmission mode dependent on the print job.

53. (new) The system of claim 52 wherein in the transmission mode with the direct transmission of the data, the reading computer module reacts, controlled by said at least one parameter, in one of the following manners when data to be read no longer exists:

the read event is continuously repeated until data to be read is present , or until the reading computer module receives the notification that data is no longer being supplied, or

the read event is aborted.

54. (new) The system of claim 52 wherein the data are supplied in blocks in a block format predetermined by the supplying computer module.

55. (new) A system according to claim 52 wherein the data transmission of the data occurs via a socket connection established between the supplying computer module and the reading computer module.

56. (new) A system according to claim 52 wherein given storage in segments of print data, print data of a print job are already further processed via the reading computer module in a subsequent process, while subsequent print data of the same print job are still being stored.

57. (new) A system according to claim 52 wherein the supplying computer module runs on the first server and the reading computer module runs on a second print data server.

58. (new) A system according to claim 52 wherein both the supplying computer module and the reading computer module run on the first print data server.

59. (new) A system according to claim 52 wherein the transmission mode is selected controlled by a plurality of parameters, and wherein the reading computer module and the supplying computer module cooperate via the parameters.